

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED

SEP 19 1988

National Register of Historic Places
Registration FormNATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Palmer Memorial Institute Historic Districtother names/site number N/A2. Location N & S sides US 70, approx. 0.7-1.0 mi NW ofstreet & number Jet w/SR 3056 (Rock Creek Dairy Rd.)N/A not for publicationcity, town SedaliaN/A vicinitystate North Carolinacode NCcounty Guilfordcode 081zip code 27342

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☒ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

- ☐ building(s)
☒ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>16</u>	<u>8</u> buildings
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>23</u>	<u>8</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/ANumber of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

William S. Fair
State Historic Preservation Officer

Date

9 Sep 88

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the National Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.
☐ removed from the National Register.
☐ other, (explain:)

Care D. Skell10-24-88

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school

EDUCATION/ education-related housing

RELIGION/ religious structure

DOMESTIC/ single dwelling

GOVERNMENT/ post office

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION and CULTURE/museum

RELIGION/religious structure

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Bungalow

Other: I-house

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Brick

Weatherboard

roof Asphalt

other Wood

Stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☐ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☒ B ☐ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☒ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Education

Ethnic Heritage - Black

Period of Significance

1901-1952

Significant Dates

1901

1902

1952

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Brown, Charlotte Hawkins

Architect/Builder

Barton, Harry

Hartmann, Charles C.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

☒ See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 62.72 acres

UTM References

A

17	623820	3992700
Zone	Easting	Northing

B

17	624490	3991820
Zone	Easting	Northing

C

17	623540	3991740
Zone	Easting	Northing

D

Zone	Easting	Northing

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated area consists of Parcel 3 of Block 209 and Parcels 23, 2, 1, 12, 13, and 24 of Block 240, Tax Map ACL-18-1175, Rock Creek and Jefferson Townships of Guilford County, North Carolina, along with that stretch of US 70 and that stretch of SR 3054 onto which these parcels face, as indicated by the heavy black boundary line on the accompanying tax map.

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary has been drawn to include the remaining intact tract of the former Palmer Memorial Institute (now the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Memorial State Historic Site) along with the adjoining properties on the south and north sides of US 70 which were historically associated with Palmer Memorial Institute.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Laura A. W. Phillips, Consultant

organization N/A

street & number 637 N. Spring Street

city or town Winston-Salem,

date May 1, 1988

telephone 919/727-1968

state NC

zip code 27101

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1

Palmer Memorial Institute Historic District is located approximately eight miles east of Greensboro in the gently rolling hills of Guilford County. Comprised of just over sixty acres, the linear district straddles a three-tenths-of-a-mile stretch of U.S. 70 in the small community of Sedalia. The cedars and other trees which line most of this stretch of the road assist in visually unifying the north and south sections of the district. The focus of the district is Palmer Memorial Institute (hereinafter referred to as PMI), located on a forty-acre tract on the south side of U.S. 70. Its fifteen buildings and structures are arranged in campus fashion with a network of tree-lined lanes and walkways along the north half of the property, while the south half is wooded. The water tower (No. 1D) and athletic field at the east end of the campus are separated from the rest of PMI by Palmer Farm Road, a little-used gravel road. Other than the campus itself, PMI's resources date from the 1920s to the 1960s and include both brick and frame buildings which are primarily in the Colonial Revival and Bungalow styles and which range in height from one to two stories. These are dormitories, teachers' cottages, a dining hall, a classroom building, and a student canteen and bookstore. Also on the campus are the bell tower (No. 1H), the water tower (No. 1D), the Charlotte Hawkins Brown gravesite, and several storage buildings and garages. The most architecturally impressive of PMI's buildings are the two-story Galen Stone Hall (No. 1F) and the two-story Charles W. Eliot Hall (No. 10) which face each other from opposite ends of the campus and the one-story Kimball Hall (No. 1G). All three are simple Colonial Revival brick buildings with slate roofs and handsome Classical pedimented entrance porticos. Plans attribute Galen Stone Hall to the prominent Greensboro architect Harry Barton, and because of the numerous similarities among the buildings, it is likely that the other two were also designed by him. The other properties in the district are all historically associated with PMI. Adjacent to the west end of the campus is the Rev. John Brice House (No. 2), a ca. 1926 bungalow. The remaining four properties are on the north side of U.S. 70. At the west end of the row is Bethany United Church of Christ (No. 3), built in 1870 and remodeled ca. 1925 and 1975, with its rambling cemetery in back. East of the church is the district's most recent building, the 1972 Charles W. Bundrige House (No. 4), a brick-veneered ranch style dwelling. Next is the Ollie Mae Burnside House (No. 5), a one-story frame cottage moved to the site in the early 1950s. At the east end of the row, and completing the district, is the late nineteenth-early twentieth century Robert B. Andrew Farm and Store/Post Office (No. 6). It includes a two-story frame vernacular farmhouse, a collection of log and frame outbuildings, and next to the road a typical one-story frame country store with a parapeted false front and the former Sedalia Post Office in the rear. Located on spacious lots, the houses on the north side of U.S. 70 (as well as the Brice House on the south side) are all set far back from the road. Bethany Church is somewhat more prominently positioned in relationship to the road, and typically, the store/post office

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2

stands next to the road at the corner of the Andrew lot. The properties beyond the boundaries of the district are characterized by woods to the north and south; the 1960s post office, woods, and non-compatible housing to the east; and non-compatible housing and the Sedalia Elementary School to the west.

At the beginning of the district's period of significance (1901-1952), the nominated area consisted primarily of the plain, weatherboarded Bethany Church, a farmstead, and largely uncultivated fields and woods. After PMI was begun in 1902, construction proceeded in a slow but constant manner, so that by 1916 there was a collection of four primary buildings of frame construction (Memorial Hall, Grinnell Cottage, Grew Hall, Industrial Building) on the campus. In 1922 the first brick building--the three-story Alice Freeman Palmer Building--was erected. It became the architectural focal point of the campus. All five of these buildings succumbed to subsequent fires. A flurry of building activity occurred during the late 1920s and early 1930s (water tower-No. 1D, Galen Stone Hall-No. 1F, Kimball Hall-No. 1G, Tea House-No. 1K, Canary Cottage-No. 1M, Brightside Cottage-No. 1P, Gregg Cottage-No. 1R, and Charles W. Eliot Hall-No. 1O) and again in the late 1940s (Massachusetts Congregational Women's Cottage-No. 1E and Carrie M. Stone Cottage-No. 1N, both designed by Greensboro architect Charles C. Hartmann). Along with several buildings erected or moved to the campus in the mid 1960s (Bus shed-No. 1I, Stoffler Hall-No. 1L, Brice-Maye Cottage-No. 1S, and Reynolds Hall-No. 1T), these buildings remain with several small structures (including the ca. 1922 bell tower-No. 1H) and the Charlotte Hawkins Brown gravesite to define the physical character of PMI. Ranging from fair to excellent condition, they have been little altered and are currently being stabilized with plans for future restoration as part of the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Memorial State Historic Site.

While PMI was developing, the surrounding properties were also slowing evolving. Just beyond the west end of the campus, a one-and-a-half-story frame bungalow (No. 2) was built in 1926-1927 by Palmer students under the supervision of the industrial training teacher for the Rev. John Brice, who was chaplain and teacher of religion at the school as well as pastor of Bethany Church across the road. The erection of the Brice House, along with the construction of several teachers' cottages on campus and, later, the erection of the Bundrige and Burnside houses across the road, illustrates Charlotte Hawkins Brown's desire to have the school's teachers and staff living either on campus or very close to it. The Brice House remains virtually unaltered. At about the time the Brice House was built, Bethany Church (No. 3) across the road was remodeled under the supervision of Rev. John Brice and Charlotte Hawkins Brown. The remodeling generally upgraded the structure and provided it with a fancier exterior design which included the installation of lancet-arched stained glass windows on the front flanking the round-arched central entrance and tall pilasters. A frame parsonage stood east of the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 3

church, but it no longer stands. In 1975 the church was brick veneered and an education and fellowship wing was added to the rear. East of the church, the land along U.S. 70 was, during PMI's period of significance, in agricultural use. For some of those years it served as the sweet potato field for PMI's agricultural operation. When at last the land was partially infilled with houses in the early 1950s (No. 5) and in 1972 (No. 4), these houses became the residences of PMI employees, continuing the long tradition of a closely-knit educational community. The farmstead at the north end of the district (No. 6) probably dates from the last quarter of the nineteenth century when it was owned by John C. and Barbara Foust. Soon after PMI was established, Robert B. and Laura Andrew purchased the farm in 1906 and soon thereafter built the two-story main body of the house. Andrew also established the post office for the community (and particularly PMI), which he named Sedalia, and it was located in the rear wing of his store. Although the old store and post office stand vacant, they remain with the house and outbuildings in little-altered and in fair to excellent condition, helping to maintain and reflect the physical appearance of the area as it was during PMI's period of significance.

Today the Palmer Memorial Institute Historic District maintains a high degree of integrity in regard to location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The district is composed of sixteen contributing buildings, eight non-contributing buildings, two contributing sites, three contributing structures, and two contributing objects, totaling twenty-three contributing resources and eight non-contributing resources. Of these, the contributing resources are those which date from the district's period of significance and which continue to contribute to the physical character of the district and to the reasons for which the district is historically significant. All eight of the non-contributing resources relate historically to PMI or to the district buildings which themselves relate to PMI, but they were either constructed after the district's period of significance or are of unknown construction date.

INVENTORY LIST:

- 1A. PALMER MEMORIAL INSTITUTE: CAMPUS. S side US 70, 0.8 mi. NW of jct. w/SR 3056 (Rock Creek Dairy Rd.). 1901-1971. Contributing site. Palmer Memorial Institute began on 15 acres of land on what is now the south side of U.S. 70 and expanded through the years to include over 350 acres, most of which was in agricultural use. The surviving tract includes just over 40 of these acres. The south half is presently in woods, while the north half contains the campus proper.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 4

By 1916 there were at least four frame structures on campus, but these subsequently burned in a series of fires and were gradually replaced by new construction. PMI's surviving buildings date from ca. 1922 (bell tower) to ca. 1966 (Stoffler Hall [Science Building] and Reynolds Hall) and are spread out along the entire east-west length of the property. Formality of plan is suggested by the stone posts which flank the two main entrances to the campus on either side of Kimball Hall and by the placement of the girls' dormitory (Galen Stone Hall) and the old boys' dormitory (Charles W. Eliot Hall), which face each other from opposite ends of the campus. Kimball Hall, which is positioned perpendicular to Galen Stone Hall, continues this formality. The three nearly identical houses--Canary Cottage, Carrie M. Stone Cottage, and Massachusetts Congregational Women's Cottage--are located close to the road, while the two other residential cottages--Brightside Cottage and Gregg Cottage--are positioned next to each other near the rear of the campus. The other buildings and structures are scattered in a less formal manner around the campus, and all are connected by a series of lanes and walkways--sometimes bordered by trees--which crisscross the campus. Other features of the campus include broad expanses of lawn, the Charlotte Hawkins Brown gravesite east of Canary Cottage, and the sites of the 1922 Alice Freeman Palmer Building (facing U.S. 70 in front of Stoffler Hall) and the 1938 gymnasium (south of Galen Stone Hall). On the opposite side of Palmer Farm Road at the east end of the campus are the ca. 1930 water tower and the large athletic field.

- 1B. PMI: STONE ENTRANCE. ca. 1930. Contributing object. Heavy mortared-stone posts with flat concrete caps and low extension walls on the two outer sides, flanking the east main entrance to the campus which leads back, along a tree-lined lane, to Galen Stone Hall, Kimball Hall, and beyond. The east post contains an inset marble plaque stating "PMI 1902" while the west post has a plaque stating "Class of 1927."
- 1C. PMI: STONE ENTRANCE. ca. 1930. Contributing object. Stone posts identical to 1B which define the west main entrance to the campus and the lane between Kimball Hall and the Alice Freeman Palmer Building (destroyed). The plaque on the east post says "1903" while the west post plaque says "Class of 1924."
- 1D. PMI: WATER TOWER. ca. 1930. Contributing structure. Fifty thousand gallon circular tank with conical roof, located at the southeast corner of the large athletic field. It was installed as part of PMI's own light, water, and drainage system.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

- 1E. PMI: MASSACHUSETTS CONGREGATIONAL WOMEN'S COTTAGE. ca. 1948. Contributing building. One-and-a-half-story brick veneer cottage of simple Colonial Revival influence with steep gable roof with braced eaves, front and rear shed dormers, an interior end chimney with exposed face, a pedimented entrance flanked by simple Classical pilasters, an east side porch, and a one-story rear kitchen ell. Located along U.S. 70 near the east end of campus, the house is virtually identical to the Carrie M. Stone Cottage near the west end of campus. According to the original plans, the two were designed by Greensboro architect Charles C. Hartmann and were based on the design of the earlier Canary Cottage.
- 1F. PMI: GALEN STONE HALL. 1926-1927. Contributing building. Thirteen-bay, two-story, brick building with slate-covered hip roof, dormers, and a well-detailed Classical central portico with Doric columns and a pedimented, dentiled entablature. The north and south ends of the building have simple Classical entrance porches. Stone Hall is the most architecturally impressive building remaining on campus and plans reveal that it was designed by prominent Greensboro architect Harry Barton. Located near the east end of campus, it was the girls' dorm and faced the nearly identical (except in length) boys' dorm, Charles W. Eliot Hall, at the west end of campus. It was named for the school's long-time friend and generous benefactor, Galen L. Stone of Boston. In early 1950 Stone Hall suffered a disastrous fire, but by the following fall it had been renovated for continued use.
- 1G. PMI: KIMBALL HALL. 1926-1927. Contributing building. Handsome one-story, nine-bay, brick building with slate-covered hip roof, unusual Baroque attic ventilators, and a well-detailed central Classical portico with clustered Doric columns and a dentiled, pedimented entablature. The symmetrical design includes Classical porches (now enclosed) at either end of the building and a central rear ell. Named for benefactor Helen Kimball, this building, along with Stone Hall, Eliot Hall, and the Alice Freeman Palmer Building (destroyed), was one of the most architecturally impressive buildings on campus. It was used as the dining hall, with the basement housing the industrial and mechanical arts classes.
- 1H. PMI: BELL TOWER. ca. 1922. Contributing structure. Small, two-stage, weatherboarded bell tower whose ground floor measures approximately 8.3 feet square. The second stage is open at the top and is capped by a pyramidal roof. Believed to be the oldest structure remaining on

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

campus, the bell tower signaled the time to rise, the time for bed, and the times for classes, meals, sporting events, and other campus functions.

- 1I. PMI: BUS SHED. ca. 1964. Non-contributing building. Frame shed with corrugated metal roof and siding, which housed the PMI bus.
- 1J. PMI: FIREHOUSE. ca. 1930s. Contributing building. Small weatherboarded building with gable roof, sash window, and double-leaf entrance on the gable end. The shed-like building was used to store the school's firefighting apparatus.
- 1K. PMI: TEA HOUSE. ca. 1929. Contributing building. One-story frame building with front and side gables and three small entrance porches. The Tea House functioned as the campus canteen and bookstore, but it also served as a "hands-on" learning center for business management, illustrating a typical PMI method of teaching. Each year students took over the operation of the Tea House in the hope of making it a profit-yielding business. Here they practiced theories of buying and selling, planning, budgeting, co-operation, and service.
- 1L. PMI: STOFFLER HALL. 1966. Non-contributing building. One-story brick veneer building with a flat roof, windowless north and west walls, a small greenhouse attached to the east end, nine windows across the rear (south elevation), and an open interior. It was used as the science building.
- 1M. PMI: CANARY COTTAGE. 1926-1927. Contributing building. One-and-a-half-story weatherboarded house with a steep hipped roof with braced eaves and carved rafter ends, front and rear shed dormers, an interior end chimney with exposed face, a vestibule entrance with simple Classical details, an east side porch, and a one-story rear kitchen ell. This was the personal residence of Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown and was described in the 1935 school bulletin as "a Dutch Colonial bungalow type." It was furnished "to give students practical ideas on interior decoration." Dr. Brown hosted numerous teas and other social events in her home in order to provide students with training in cultured behavior. Canary Cottage was the model for the Carrie M. Stone Cottage and the Massachusetts Congregational Women's Cottage which were erected ca. 1948. The primary differences are in the use of exterior materials (weatherboard vs. brick veneer) and variations in the floor plans, which at Canary Cottage include a

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 7

front living room/reception area which extends across the entire width of the house. The house is being restored and furnished to its appearance during Dr. Brown's occupancy.

- 1N. PMI: CARRIE M. STONE COTTAGE. ca. 1948. Contributing building. One-and-a-half-story brick veneer house that is virtually identical to the Massachusetts Congregational Women's Cottage near the east end of campus. It was designed by Greensboro architect Charles C. Hartmann (according to plans) who based the design on Canary Cottage. Named for the wife of Galen Stone, the house was used as a residence for single female members of the PMI faculty. It currently serves as the visitor center for the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Memorial State Historic Site.
- 1O. PMI: CHARLES W. ELIOT HALL. 1934. Contributing building. Two-story, eight-bay, brick building with slate-covered hipped roof, dormers, and a well-detailed Classical portico with Doric columns and a dentiled and pedimented entablature. A small but handsome Classical entrance porch is found on the north end of the building. Used as the boys' dorm, Eliot Hall would have been identical to Galen Stone Hall (which it faces across campus) had not the construction of the south five bays been prevented by a shortage of funds. It was likely designed by the architect of Galen Stone Hall, Harry Barton. Eliot Hall was named for the president of Harvard University who was a supporter of PMI.
- 1P. PMI: BRIGHTSIDE COTTAGE. ca. 1930. Contributing building. Small but handsome one-story weatherboarded bungalow with a gable roof, widely overhanging eaves, a gable end chimney, paired six-over-one sash windows, and an off-center front porch with clustered corner posts connected by lattice. Named for PMI supporter Mrs. Osborn Bright, it was identical to Gregg Cottage prior to minor alterations to the latter and was used as housing for married faculty.
- 1Q. PMI: GARAGE. mid-20th cent. Non-contributing building. Undistinguished frame garage behind and between Brightside and Gregg cottages, of unknown construction date.
- 1R. PMI: GREGG COTTAGE. ca. 1930. Contributing building. One-story frame bungalow identical except for minor alterations to porch (removal of lattice between posts and addition of plywood skirt around the lower third) to Brightside Cottage next door. Like Brightside, it was used as married faculty housing. It was named for the son of benefactors Galen and Carrie Stone.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 8

-
- 1S. PMI: BRICE-MAYE COTTAGE. ca. 1965. Non-contributing building. One-story frame building with a gable roof and a small gabled entrance porch. It was moved to the campus from Palmer Farm Road and was used to house the youngest (pre-freshman) students.
- 1T. PMI: REYNOLDS HALL. ca. 1966. Non-contributing building. Two-story, eleven-bay, brick veneer building with brick quoined corners, simple late Colonial Revival entrances, and a pedimented gable roof. The westernmost building on campus, Reynolds Hall replaced Eliot Hall in use as the high school boys' dormitory.
2. REV. JOHN BRICE HOUSE. 6124 Burlington Rd. (U.S. 70). 1926-1927. Contributing building. One-and-a-half-story weatherboarded bungalow with gable end facade, overhanging braced eaves, a timbered truss decoration in the gable peak, and a hip-roofed front porch with paired and tripled posts set on stone plinths and a plain balustrade. The house was constructed for Rev. John Brice by PMI students under the supervision of Mr. Driver, the industrial training teacher. Dr. Brice was chaplain and instructor in religion at PMI from ca. 1919 to 1950 and served for a quarter of a century (longer than any other) as pastor of Bethany Church across the road. After Brice retired, the house was sold in 1953 to Haywood E. and Vina (Wadlington) Webb. Haywood Webb was the first black agricultural extension agent in North Carolina, serving in Guilford County and later starting programs in Alamance and Vance counties. Vina Webb was in the second graduating class (1907) at PMI, and after teaching for years in public schools in various North Carolina counties, she taught at PMI in the 1950s. Their son, Dr. Harold H. Webb, is current owner of the house and is the Executive Director of the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Historic Foundation.
- 3A. BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST. N. side U.S. 70, 1 mi. NW of jct. w/SR 3056 (Rock Creek Dairy Rd.). 1870, remodeled ca. 1925, 1975. Contributing building. One-story brick veneered church with front belfry and three-bay facade with lancet-arched stained glass windows flanking the double-leaf, central entrance with round-arched, stained glass transom. Extending east from the rear of the church is the 1975 brick veneer education and fellowship wing. The interior has been partially remodeled through the years. According to church history, Bethany Congregational Church was established in 1870, and soon thereafter a school was started in the church. Originally the church was a simple frame structure with a gable roof and plain doors and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 9

windows, typical of countless rural churches built in North Carolina in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Because of its additional school function, the sanctuary was lined with blackboards. By 1901, under the leadership of Rev. Manual Liston Baldwin, the school had become known as Bethany Normal and Industrial Institute. In the fall of 1901 the American Missionary Association sent Charlotte Hawkins (later Brown) from Cambridge, Massachusetts to teach in the school. Bethany Institute closed the following spring, after which Charlotte Hawkins stayed in the community and founded her own school across the road which became Palmer Memorial Institute. It was located on fifteen acres given by Rev. M. L. Baldwin. After the establishment of the new school, ties were not broken with the church. On the contrary, Palmer Memorial Institute remained closely associated throughout its history with Bethany Church. (As its denomination evolved, Bethany became in 1931 the Bethany Congregational Christian Church, and in 1957 the Bethany United Church of Christ.) The two stained glass windows in the front of the church were dedicated to deacon Cain Foust and to trustee John H. Smith, who, along with Charlotte Hawkins, signed the incorporation papers for PMI in 1907. For a quarter of a century, John Brice, who was instructor in religion at PMI, served as pastor of Bethany Church. PMI students and faculty attended Sunday services at Bethany, and the students formed the choir and taught Sunday school classes. Brice and Charlotte Hawkins Brown supervised a remodeling of the church ca. 1925, modernizing it and making its exterior more stylish. It was then that the stained glass windows were added, the center posts in the sanctuary were removed, the pulpit area was raised, the desk-pews were replaced, and electricity was installed. Although the blackboards were covered with newer wall material, the chalk ledges along each side of the sanctuary were left exposed, a constant reminder of the period during which the church also functioned as a school. In 1975 an education and fellowship wing was added to the rear of the church, and the entire building was brick veneered, retaining, however, the design of the frame church. Although Bethany Church has been remodeled, its unusually strong associations with the entire history of Palmer Memorial Institute create an overriding justification for its inclusion as a contributing resource in the historic district.

- 3B. BETHANY CHURCH CEMETERY. Late 19th century-present. Contributing site. The cemetery is spread out across the deep lot which runs downhill behind Bethany Church. Among its gravestones, which date from the late 19th century to the present, are those of numerous people associated with both PMI and the church, including Charlie Maye (long time grounds superintendent at PMI), Vina Wadlington Webb (in second

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 10

PMI graduating class and later a teacher at the school as well as historian of the church), Zula D. Totten (member of first graduating class of PMI), Cain Foust (deacon of the church and signer of PMI's incorporation papers), etc.

4. CHARLES W. BUNDRIGE HOUSE, 6133 Burlington Rd. (U.S. 70). 1972.
Non-contributing building. One-story brick veneer ranch style dwelling with a front and side gable roof. It was built in 1972 by Burlington contractor James Gilliam for Charles W. Bundrige, the last president of PMI. Prior to Bundrige's purchase of the property, it served as PMI's sweet potato field, a part of the school's agricultural operation. Part of the expansive yard of the house remains a garden. Along the front edge of the property is a row of mature cedar trees which contributes significantly to the quiet, picturesque quality of the roadscape within the historic district.
5. OLLIE MAE BURNSIDE HOUSE. 6139 Burlington Rd.(U.S. 70). Ca. 1953.
Non-contributing building. Simple asbestos-shingled cottage with a gable roof, a five bay facade, and a plain entrance stoop. The house originated as part of an army barrack at a supply camp in Greensboro. After World War II, the barracks were broken up and sold as houses. (You could purchase whatever length you needed.) This section was moved to the present site, where it became the residence of Ollie Mae Burnside, the dietician at PMI. After she moved to South Carolina, the house was occupied by the school's French instructor from Martinique, Mr. DeMontaigne.
- 6A. R. B. ANDREW FARM: HOUSE. 6145 Burlington Rd.(U.S. 70), ca. 1910.
Contributing building. Two-story frame vernacular farmhouse of the I-house type with a triple-A roof, interior rear chimneys, a three-bay facade, a wrap-around porch with slender turned posts and sawnwork brackets, a center hall plan, and a one-story rear ell with porch. Attached to the rear ell by a breezeway is a board-and-batten-sided structure which was likely the kitchen of an earlier house on the property. When Robert B. and Laura E. Andrew purchased approximately 100 acres from John C. and Barbara Foust in 1906, a house and outbuildings already stood on the property. They may have been built by Foust, who had owned the property since 1878. Andrew soon thereafter built the present two-story house. Although only little more than six acres remain with the house, its presence, along with its outbuildings and open field, provides a visual sense of the agricultural character of the area before and during most of Palmer Memorial Institute's existence. The post office established by Andrew, in particular, had a direct relationship with PMI.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 11

- 6B. ANDREW FARM: SMOKEHOUSE. Late 19th-early 20th century. Contributing structure. Typical log (now sheathed with vertical boards) smokehouse with widely overhanging gable eaves on the front. Attached to the west side is a log (1/2 dovetail-notched) animal pen.
- 6C. ANDREW FARM: BARN. Late 19th-early 20th century. Contributing building. Center passage, double-pen barn with gable main roof and broad shed roof across the front. Only the west pen is of log (V-notched) construction, while the east pen and rear sheds are frame.
- 6D. ANDREW FARM: GRANARY. Late 19th-early 20th century. Contributing building. V-notched log (now sheathed with vertical boards) granary with typical enclosed frame sheds along both sides and across the rear.
- 6E. ANDREW FARM: GARAGE. 20th century. Non-contributing building. Frame garage or equipment shed with a gable roof and vertical board siding. Date of construction unknown.
- 6F. ANDREW FARM: STORE & (FORMER) SEDALIA POST OFFICE. Late 19th century, ca. 1910. Contributing building. One-story frame commercial building with rear section set perpendicular to front section and with gable roof, boxed and molded cornice, plain parapeted false front and shed-roofed front porch. The much-faded painted sign, "R. B. Andrew" can still be seen across the parapet. The rear section appears to date from the nineteenth century and may have been an earlier store on the property. The front portion of the building was probably built by Andrew soon after he purchased the property in 1906. This section was lined with shelves and was used as the store, while the older, rear section was used as the post office and as a storage room. Andrew is credited locally with obtaining a post office for the community--particularly to serve the needs of Palmer Memorial Institute--and with selecting the name "Sedalia" for the post office, which then became the name of the community. He served as the first postmaster until his death, after which his wife, Laura, and later his daughter, Elsie A. Paisley, served. Mrs. Paisley retired in 1966, and in 1968 the present post office opened next door (not in district). For most of PMI's existence, the old post office played an important role in its day-to-day operations.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The Palmer Memorial Institute Historic District is of statewide significance in the areas of education and black ethnic heritage because of its association with the development of black education in North Carolina during the first half of the twentieth century (Criteria A) and because of its simultaneous association with prominent black educator Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown (Criteria B). She was the force behind Palmer Memorial Institute, which, in turn, served as a physical expression of her ideals and principles. The five non-campus properties in the district are all historically related to Palmer Memorial Institute. The district gained its primary significance from 1901, when Charlotte Hawkins first came to the community to teach at Palmer Memorial Institute's forerunner, Bethany Normal and Industrial Institute; through 1902, when she founded Palmer Memorial Institute; through the following half century when the school evolved from one that focused primarily on agricultural and industrial training and home economics and served primarily the children of the surrounding area to one that was a prestigious college preparatory and finishing school that catered primarily to the children of well-to-do blacks from all over the United States and several foreign countries; to 1952, when Charlotte Hawkins Brown retired as president of the school. Criteria G applies to this district, for although Palmer Memorial Institute attained part of its significance in black education due to its role in the early twentieth century as a locally-oriented school which focused on the training of black youth in agriculture, industry, and home economics, its exceptional significance continued into the mid-1930s to mid-1950s period when it acquired greater prominence as a black prep and finishing school of national reputation. It is the best example known to the NHP of a school which evolved in this manner and which was so closely associated throughout its period of significance with an individual black educator. As long as Charlotte Hawkins Brown was the head of the school, it struggled onward, evolved in response to the times, survived, and grew in reputation--a reputation that was inseparable from her own. Brown's retirement as the school's president in 1952 signaled the end of a long and important era in the school's history. Three presidents later, Palmer Memorial Institute closed in 1971. Two resources deemed to be contributing to the character and significance of the district were erected during this "less-than-fifty-year" period from 1938 to 1952. They are the Massachusetts Congregational Women's Cottage and the Carrie M. Stone Cottage, both built ca. 1948 and designed by Greensboro architect Charles C. Hartmann with Charlotte Hawkins Brown's own house, Canary Cottage, as the model. The two houses illustrate the continued influence of Brown's ideals on the physical appearance of the campus as well as on its educational philosophy. The building of the Stone Cottage as a residence for single female faculty members illustrates Brown's desire to have the school's teachers and staff live on or near campus to promote closer interaction between faculty and students. The

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

erection of the Massachusetts Cottage as a home economics learning center illustrates one of Brown's philosophies of education, that of learning by doing. [Criteria C has not been utilized for this nomination, because the district's significance is primarily historical in nature. Nevertheless, the district does include handsome buildings representative of typical prep school/collegiate architecture as well as representative examples of the Colonial Revival and Bungalow styles and the vernacular I-house type.]

CONTEXT: The Development of Black Education in North Carolina during the First Half of the Twentieth Century

In the years preceding the Civil War, the state of North Carolina provided neither publicly nor privately for the education of blacks--slave or free. During the war, the few schools for blacks were taught almost entirely by white teachers from New England aid societies. After the Civil War the Freedmen's Bureau, the Peabody Fund, and various religious societies were active in providing schools for blacks, who were taught primarily to read, write, and cipher. During the last quarter of the nineteenth century there was very little improvement in the status of education for blacks in North Carolina in terms of percentage of school population enrolled, percentage of attendance, length of school term, and teachers' salaries. However, white schools also saw little progress.(1) As early as 1869, state aid for public schools without reference to race had been approved by the legislature, but it was not until 1899 that any school actually received money from the state's treasury. Public schools in operation during the period were almost wholly the products of county or local community initiative, and most of these efforts were for the whites.(2) One positive development during these years was a new emphasis on teacher training through normal schools and teachers' institutes.(3)

The coming of the twentieth century brought hope for positive change in education for blacks in North Carolina. Governor Charles B. Aycock promised "universal education" that included education for blacks. Yet his "universal education" apparently did not mean equal education, for it was during his term that the first great unbalancing of school funds in favor of whites occurred. (4) During this same period education in the South, including North Carolina and including education for blacks, received significant impetus from the outside through large contributions from various philanthropists and both civic and religious organizations.(5) Actual progress during the first decade is suggested by the decrease in the illiteracy rate in the state. Between 1900 and 1910, illiteracy among whites (above ten years of age) was reduced from 19.4 to 12.3 per cent and among blacks from 47.6 to 31.9 per cent.(6)

During the early twentieth century black educators themselves expressed

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3

two opposing philosophies of education for their race. Booker T. Washington was the major proponent for the philosophy that hoped to improve the condition of blacks through education in agriculture and the trades and generally by an economic extension of their traditional role in society. W. E. B. DuBois and the modernists, however, urged a liberal education for the talented and an aggressive integration of Negroes in all areas. They insisted that blacks were entitled to every right and privilege enjoyed by any other American. (7) (Through its first half century of development, Palmer Memorial Institute eventually encompassed aspects of both of these philosophies.)

The period from 1910 to 1920 saw slow but continued growth and improvement in most phases of black education. A uniform six months school term was provided, black teachers' salaries were increased, and additional emphasis was given to the training of black teachers.(8) There remained, however, a tremendous disparity between public school expenditures for white and black schools in the state. During the 1914-1915 school year, blacks composed 32.6% of the school population, but only 13% of expenditures for teachers' salaries; new buildings, repairs and sites; and libraries went to black education.(9)

During the 1920s, North Carolina's system of public education underwent a modernization process which carried over to the black schools. Black education in general continued to move forward. Of particular importance was the establishment in 1921 of the Division of Negro Education within the state Department of Public Instruction. The division's purpose was to provide better supervision of the black schools.(10)

Several figures suggest the general improvement in black education in North Carolina during the first quarter of the twentieth century. In 1902 there were only two public black high schools in the state. By 1910-1911 seventy-two public black schools in rural North Carolina were offering some high school subjects. By 1922-1923 there were twenty-six public black high schools, eight of which were accredited. (Palmer Memorial Institute, a private school, was also accredited in that year.) In 1927-1928 the number of high schools had grown to 108.(11) At the same time, the number of black teachers in the state grew from 2,567 in 1900 to 5,815 in 1927, the percentage of black children attending school grew from 59.1% in 1900 to 83% in 1927, and the total value for black school property mushroomed from \$258,295 in 1900 to \$9,447,727 in 1927.(12) Boosting public expenditures for black education was the nearly two million dollars provided during the first quarter century by four philanthropic agencies: the General Education Board, the Jeanes Fund, the Slater Fund, and the Rosenwald Fund.(13)

The second quarter of the twentieth century continued the patterns of progress that were established during the first quarter century. For example, by the 1940-1941 school year, the value of black school property had increased to \$15,580,743. Yet the same disparity between black and white schools also remained the rule, as exemplified by the fact that in 1940-1941 the value of white school property totaled \$105,658,494.(14) In short, as long as the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

schools for whites and blacks were segregated, there was a gross disparity between the commitments made by the state to the two systems. It was against this setting of black public education in North Carolina during the first half of the twentieth century that the private Palmer Memorial Institute evolved.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

The histories of Palmer Memorial Institute and of Charlotte Hawkins Brown are inseparable. Brown founded and nurtured the school for half a century, and it, in turn, became a physical manifestation of her ideals and principles.

Lottie Hawkins (she changed her name to Charlotte Eugenia while in high school) was born in Henderson, North Carolina on June 11, 1883. At the age of six, she and her family moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she attended elementary and secondary schools. After graduation, Alice Freeman Palmer, the first woman president of Wellesley College, sponsored Hawkins's attendance at Salem State Normal School. After one year there, Hawkins accepted an appointment as a teacher at a small rural school east of Greensboro that was sponsored by the American Missionary Association.(15) (Later she graduated from Salem State, attended Wellesley, and received several honorary master's and doctorate degrees from various colleges and universities.)

In the fall of 1901 Charlotte Hawkins arrived at the school, known as Bethany Normal and Industrial Institute, to begin her life's work that would influence more than 1,000 students and countless others with whom she had contact.(16) The school was housed in Bethany Congregational Church (No. 3 - later known as Bethany United Church of Christ), a small white frame church in great need of repair.(17) The surrounding community--later named Sedalia (see No. 6) was agricultural (see No. 6) and poor. In the spring of 1902, the AMA withdrew support from its one- and two-teacher schools where there seemed to be little prospect for advancement, including Bethany Institute. Instead of accepting an offer of transfer from the AMA, Charlotte Hawkins decided to remain in the community and begin her own school. It was named Palmer Memorial Institute in honor of Alice Freeman Palmer, who died in 1902.(18) Although separate entities, Palmer Memorial Institute and Bethany Church retained close ties throughout the history of the school.

Rev. Manual Liston Baldwin, pastor of Bethany Church, and his wife soon deeded fifteen acres of land to the trustees of PMI for use by the school. This was the beginning of what eventually grew to be a campus of over 350 acres.(19) On November 23, 1907, Palmer Memorial Institute was formally incorporated, with Charlotte E. Hawkins, Cain Foust (deacon of the church), and John H. Smith, (a trustee of the church), serving as first trustees. The stated purpose of the school was to "teach said colored race improved methods of agriculture and industrial pursuits generally."(20) In 1908 benefactor Helen F. Kimball of Brookline, Massachusetts gave the school land for a farm.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 5

(21) Thus the tone for PMI's early years was set. A ca. 1916 promotional brochure described the school's work as "the development of farm life" and claimed that it was the first school "to introduce industrial work in the rural schools of the county." The pamphlet carried an endorsement by Booker T. Washington and also by a Tuskegee trustee who asserted that PMI was established on the same lines as Tuskegee. PMI's goal during the first half of its history was to prepare black youth for rural living and for productive work. During these years Palmer's students--ranging from grammar students to high school students--came primarily from the immediate area, and many returned to same area as teachers, farmers, and laborers.(22)

Even when the emphasis on agricultural and technical training at PMI had subsided, Charlotte Hawkins Brown (she married Edward S. Brown in 1911, and though the marriage was short-lived, she retained his name, later adding "Dr." after receiving several honorary doctorates) continued to teach two of her philosophies: the dignity of manual labor and the value of learning by doing. These philosophies could be seen in Palmer's requirement that all students give one hour of work per day to the school and in the various learning projects at the school. Among these were the operation of the school farm, the building of structures (see No. 2), the management of the school's canteen and bookstore (Tea House, No. 1K), and later, the use of the Massachusetts Congregational Women's Cottage (1E) as a hands-on home economics learning center.(23)

By 1916 there were four primary frame buildings on the Palmer Memorial Institute campus, including an administration building, a home economics building, an industrial building, and a dormitory.(24) These eventually succumbed to various fires, and subsequent buildings (at least the major ones) were of brick construction. The first of these, the Alice Freeman Palmer Building, was erected in 1922. Three others were built in 1926-1927 and in 1934. These last three--Galen Stone Hall (1F), Kimball Hall (1G), and Charles W. Eliot Hall (10)--are handsome examples of the Colonial Revival style and remain the most architecturally impressive buildings on campus. Plans reveal that at least one--Galen Stone Hall--was designed by prominent Greensboro architect Harry Barton, and because of their strong similarities, the others may have been also. Smaller frame buildings, such as the Tea House (1K) and a group of houses for faculty and for home economics training (Charlotte Hawkins Brown's own residence, Canary Cottage, and Brightside, Gregg, Carrie M. Stone, and Massachusetts Congregational Women's cottages), were erected on campus between 1926 and ca. 1948. These were in the Colonial Revival or Bungalow styles.

Palmer Memorial Institute was in a frequent state of crisis, due largely to its multiple fires and shortage of funds. Charlotte Hawkins Brown became the consummate fund raiser, keeping the school afloat through many difficult times. She managed to assemble a core of wealthy donors, first from New England and elsewhere in the North and then from North Carolina and particularly the Greensboro area. They came to her--and the school's--rescue

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 6

on numerous occasions. Foremost among her benefactors were Galen L. Stone, a Boston broker and businessman, and his family. Stone contributed large amounts of money for buildings and the development of PMI and also served as an advisor to Brown, urging more local support, the adoption of a budget, the clearer communication of specific plans, and improved business methods.(25) Brown utilized a variety of methods in fundraising. Among these were paying personal visits and writing letters to prospective donors (during the early years she also had the teachers write), giving speeches, and staging concerts (especially by the Sedalia Singers).(26)

During the late 1920s, in an effort to establish a more financially stable school that would have a better chance for permanence than one that was so closely tied to one person, Brown explored and succeeded in having the American Missionary Association take over the operation of PMI. However, Brown was unable to relinquish the total control to which she had become accustomed, and in 1934 the AMA returned Palmer to its independent status, stating that Brown would receive "the freedom in the management of the school which past history and the present situation seem to demand."(27)

In addition to its primary role as a school, Palmer Memorial Institute also made numerous positive contributions to the Sedalia community. It was the bureau of community welfare, caring for the physical needs of the families in the area, holding farmers' meetings, and making agricultural experiments. A home ownership association was created in the early years by Charlotte Hawkins Brown, and over the next several decades farm tenancy in the community decreased dramatically as more and more families purchased their own property. (28) PMI's close association with Bethany Church (No. 3) also strengthened its ties with the community. Students and teachers worshiped at Bethany on Sundays, taught several of the Sunday School classes, and formed the choir. The school's chaplain and instructor of religion was also for a quarter of a century the pastor of Bethany Church. When the church was remodeled in the 1920s, it was the Rev. John Brice and Charlotte Hawkins Brown who were largely responsible.(29)

Around 1930 changes began to occur in the educational emphasis at Palmer Memorial Institute, encouraged by several factors. The public school situation for blacks in North Carolina continued to improve, and with the emergence of more and better public schools, PMI faced the prospect of losing its local students who brought with them a state per capita payment. (In fact, when the Sedalia Public School opened in 1937, the elementary pupils in the area flocked to it, and PMI's elementary department closed.) In addition, income tax laws and the Depression reduced the possibility of receiving large sums of money from wealthy benefactors, and the educational foundations were increasingly helping public schools and colleges, not private secondary schools.(30)

In response to these, and perhaps other, conditions, Palmer Memorial Institute headed in new directions. It began to function primarily as a finishing and college preparatory school, and for a brief period (1932-1939)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 7

also operated a junior college department. Faculty members were particularly well-trained in this era, with many holding a variety of degrees, and the make-up of the student body changed from mostly local youth in elementary through high school grades to students who were from all over the United States and several foreign countries.(31) Brown proposed a school with a stronger cultural emphasis that would serve "a picked group of Negro youth, who in turn will give out the culture to other groups."(32) She believed that "in order for the Negro to get even half the recognition which he may deserve, he must be even more gracious than others, more cultured, more considerate, more observant of little courtesies and social finesse if he would gain a decent place in the sun." She intended to use "the social graces as one means of turning the wheels of progress with greater velocity on the upward road to equal opportunity and justice for all."(33) Her interest in cultural education was codified in 1940 with the publication of THE CORRECT THING TO DO - TO SAY - TO WEAR, a manual of manners used by all the students as well as by others.(34)

The increasing emphasis on cultural education and upon enrolling the economically elite did not mean the total loss of an emphasis upon the dignity of work. Indeed, each student was still expected to provide the school with at least one hour of work per day. Nor did this cultural emphasis displace a concern with academics. Palmer was among the first black high schools in North Carolina to be accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools (in 1922-1923), and an unusually high percentage of its graduates went on to college. Many continued on to graduate or professional school.(35) Students at PMI were endowed with their own individual worth and with the idea that acceptance by other people depended upon their being--as the school motto proclaimed--"educationally efficient, religiously sincere, and culturally secure."(36)

In 1952 Charlotte Hawkins Brown stepped down as president of Palmer Memorial Institute after fifty years of dedicated service. During the course of her primary role as an educator, she held positions of authority in numerous professional and black organizations. She was a leader in the women's club movement, and she was active in the Southern interracial movement, serving as an "ambassador" for her people and attempting to dispel the pervasive idea of the moral and intellectual inferiority of blacks.(37) She was also a skilled and powerful public speaker who delivered hundreds of addresses at colleges, interracial meetings, churches, and women's organizations around the country.(38)

On January 11, 1961, Charlotte Hawkins Brown died and was buried on campus near her home, Canary Cottage.(39) After her death, Palmer Memorial Institute continued to operate for another decade, under the guidance of a succession of three presidents: Wilhelmina M. Crosson (1952-1966), Harold E. Bragg (1966-1970), and Charles W. Bundrige (1970-1971).(40) Times were changing rapidly, however, with the legal establishment of racial integration, the broad-based civil rights movement, and the growth of student unrest in

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

general. The goals that PMI had long espoused were not entirely appropriate for the needs of the late 1950s and 1960s. On February 15, 1971, the Alice Freeman Palmer Building--the focal point of the Palmer Memorial Institute campus--was destroyed by fire. Classes resumed immediately, but the following fall the board of trustees closed the school.(41)

In 1987 the forty acres which remained intact of the former Palmer Memorial Institute campus took on new life when the state purchased the property for the development of North Carolina's first historic site commemorating the contributions of African-Americans to its history.(42)

CONTEXT EVALUATION:

Educational sites in North Carolina are just beginning to be studied as a group, and in this regard, the SHPO is currently planning a thematic study of public education in North Carolina, 1830-1941. Several black education sites in North Carolina are already listed in the National Register, including Estey Hall (Shaw University), Biddle Memorial Hall (Johnson C. Smith University), St. Augustine's College Campus, Barber-Scotia College, Livingstone College Historic District, William Penn High School (formerly High Point Normal and Industrial Institute), and Orange Street School. Although all played significant roles in black education in North Carolina, none is really comparable in its history to Palmer Memorial Institute. Most of these schools experienced their primary development during the second half of the nineteenth century, most were colleges, and most were church-sponsored, though several were or became public institutions. Of these, only one was instituted by blacks themselves (Livingstone College by the A. M. E. Zion Church), and none developed as the vision of a single person, as did Palmer. However, the developmental patterns of St. Augustine's College and of Livingstone College bore some relationship to that found at PMI, both in the various educational levels that were offered and in the changing emphasis from an agricultural and industrial curriculum to a more academically-oriented curriculum.(43)

To aid in the full understanding of black educational history in North Carolina, the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Memorial State Historic Site has been instituted at the Palmer Memorial Institute campus in part "to collect, preserve, research and interpret the material culture of North Carolina citizens of African descent; to use those historical resources to interpret the role of education in the African-American experience from emancipation to modern times; and to promote and encourage scholarly research in African-American history and culture." In addition, the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Historic Foundation, a non-profit support group, was created "to assist the state in the development of the historic site" and "to promote scholarship, research, and preservation in the field of African-American educational history in North Carolina."(44) Thus, as Palmer Memorial Institute filled a significant chapter in the development of black education in North Carolina during the first half of the twentieth century, so the campus will continue to play an important role in the study of the state's black educational history.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

FOOTNOTES --

1) Dennis Hargrove Cooke, The White Superintendent and the Negro Schools in North Carolina (Nashville: George Peabody College for Teachers, 1930), pp. 9, 13, 132-133.

2) Hollis Moody Long, Public Secondary Education for Negroes in North Carolina (New York: Teachers College, Columbia University, 1932), p. .
Other non-state treasury funds were used for public schools prior to 1899, including state capitation taxes. Edgar Knight, Public School Education in North Carolina (Negro University Press, 1969, reprint of Houghton-Mifflin, 1916), p. 242.

3) Cooke, White Superintendent, p. 133.

4) Louis R. Harlan, Separate and Unequal: Public School Campaigns and Racism in the Southern Seaboard States 1901-1915 (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1958), p. 102.

5) Mildred M. Williams, et. al., The Jeanes Story: A Chapter in the History of American Education 1908-1968 (Atlanta: Southern Education Foundation, 1979), p. 8.

6) Cooke, White Superintendent, p. 18.

7) Williams, Jeanes Story, p. 8.

8) Cooke, White Superintendent, p. 133; Long, Public Secondary Education, p. 3.

9) Harlan, Separate and Unequal, p. 132.

10) Cooke, White Superintendent, pp. 19, 133.

11) Cooke, White Superintendent, p. 25.

12) Cooke, White Superintendent, p. 23.

13) Cooke, White Superintendent, p. 43.

14) Biennial Report 1940-1941, State Department of Public Instruction, Table XVIII: Schoolhouses and School Property.

15) Sandra N. Smith and Earle H. West, "Charlotte Hawkins Brown," The Journal of Negro Education, Vol. 51, No. 3 (Summer 1982), 191-192.

16) "Bethany United Church of Christ," Booklet for dedication service of educational building, Sedalia, N. C., May 2, 1976, p. 5.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

17) Sadie Iola Daniel, Women Builders (Washington, D. C.: Associated Publishers, 1931), p. 144.

18) Daniel, Women Builders, p. 146; Smith and West, "Charlotte Hawkins Brown," p. 192.

19) Deed Book 176, pp. 128-131, Office of the Register of Deeds, Guilford County Courthouse, Greensboro; Palmer Memorial Institute, Sedalia, N. C., 1935 Bulletin, p. 9.

20) Certificate of Incorporation for Palmer Memorial Institute, November 23, 1907, Book D, pp. 131-133, Office of the Secretary of State, Raleigh, N. C.

21) Deed Book 202, pp. 267-268, Office of the Register of Deeds, Guilford County Courthouse, Greensboro.

22) Smith and West, "Charlotte Hawkins Brown," pp. 193-194.

23) Palmer Memorial Institute, 1935 Bulletin, p. 8; Evelyn Foster Holloway, "A Study of the Aims, Growth, and Functions of Palmer Memorial Institute" (unpublished Ph.D dissertation, Fisk University, 1935), pp. 24-25.

24) Charles W. Wadelington, "Important Dates in the Life of Dr. Charlotte Eugenia Hawkins Brown and the Alice Freeman Palmer Memorial Institute," North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources Historic Sites Section, 1987. (Typewritten.)

25) Smith and West, "Charlotte Hawkins Brown," pp. 194-195.

26) Daniel, Women Builders, pp. 148-157.

27) Smith and West, "Charlotte Hawkins Brown," pp. 194-195.

28) Palmer Memorial Institute, 1935 Bulletin, p. 9; Holloway, "A Study," pp. 31, 34-35.

29) Holloway, "A Study," pp. 32-33; "Bethany United Church of Christ," p. 5; Bethany United Church of Christ, "The One-Hundredth Anniversary, 1870-1970," p. 16. (Typewritten.)

30) Smith and West, "Charlotte Hawkins Brown," p. 196.

31) Smith and West, "Charlotte Hawkins Brown," pp. 196-197; Palmer Memorial Institute, 1935 Bulletin; Wadelington, "Important Dates."

32) Smith and West, "Charlotte Hawkins Brown," p. 197.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

33) Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, "The Negro and the Social Graces," Address on "Wings Over Jordan" Program, Columbia Broadcasting System, March 10, 1940 (Atlanta: Commission on Interracial Cooperation, n.d.).

34) Charlotte Hawkins Brown, The Correct Thing to Do- to Say- to Wear (Sedalia, N. C.: By the Author, 1940).

35) Smith and West, "Charlotte Hawkins Brown," p. 198; Palmer Memorial Institute, Sedalia, N. C. 1955-1956 Bulletin; Palmer Memorial Institute, Sedalia, N. C., Catalog 1968-1969, p. 7.

36) Smith and West, "Charlotte Hawkins Brown," pp. 199, 206; Palmer Memorial Institute Bulletin for various years. By the late 1960s, "educationally efficient" in the motto had been changed to "educationally superior."

37) Tera Hunter, "The Correct Thing: Charlotte Hawkins Brown and the Palmer Institute," Southern Exposure, September/October 1983, p. 38.

38) Smith and West, Charlotte Hawkins Brown," p. 192.

39) Wadelington, "Important Dates."

40) Smith and West, "Charlotte Hawkins Brown," p. 192.

41) Wadelington, "Important Dates."

42) Wadelington, "Important Dates."

43) National Register nominations are on file in the SHPO, Raleigh, N. C.

44) Brochure on the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Memorial State Historic Site, on the occasion of its opening to the public, November 7, 1987.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY --

"Bethany United Church of Christ." Booklet for dedication service of educational building, Sedalia, N. C., May 2, 1976.

Bethany United Church of Christ. "The One-Hundredth Anniversary, 1870-1970." (Typewritten.)

Biennial Report 1940-1941, State Department of Public Instruction. Table XVIII: Schoolhouses and School Property.

Brochure on the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Memorial State Historic Site, on the occasion of its opening to the public, November 7, 1987.

Brown, Charlotte Hawkins. The Correct Thing to Do- to Say- to Wear. Sedalia, N. C.: By the Author, 1940.

Brown, Dr. Charlotte Hawkins. "The Negro and the Social Graces," Address on "Wings Over Jordan" Program, Columbia Broadcasting System, March 10, 1940. Atlanta: Commission on Interracial Cooperation, n.d.

Cooke, Dennis Hargrove. The White Superintendent and the Negro Schools in North Carolina. Nashville: George Peabody College for Teachers, 1930.

Daniel, Sadie Iola. Women Builders. Washington, D. C.: Associated Publishers, 1931.

Guilford County Records, Office of the Register of Deeds, Guilford County Courthouse, Greensboro, N. C.

Guilford County Records, Office of the Secretary of State, Raleigh, N. C.

Harlan, Louis R. Separate and Unequal: Public School Campaigns and Racism in the Southern Seaboard States 1901-1915. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1958.

Holloway, Evelyn Foster. "A Study of the Aims, Growth, and Functions of Palmer Memorial Institute." Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Fisk University, 1935.

Hunter, Tera. "The Correct Thing: Charlotte Hawkins Brown and the Palmer Institute." Southern Exposure, September/October 1983, p. 38.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 2

Long, Hollis Moody. Public Secondary Education for Negroes in North Carolina. New York: Teachers College, Columbia University, 1932.

Palmer Memorial Institute. Bulletins and Catalogs, 1935, 1955-1956, 1968-1969.

Palmer Memorial Institute Historic District survey files, State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, N. C.

Smith, Sandra N., and West, Earle H. "Charlotte Hawkins Brown." The Journal of Negro Education, Vol. 51, No. 3 (Summer 1982), 191-192.

Totten, Ruth. Interview, Sedalia, N. C., April 25, 1988.

Wadelington, Charles W. "Important Dates in the Life of Dr. Charlotte Eugenia Hawkins Brown and the Alice Freeman Palmer Memorial Institute." North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources Historic Sites Section, 1987. (Typewritten.)

Wadelington, Charles W. Interview, Raleigh, N. C., April 13, 1988.

Webb, Harold H. Interview, Raleigh, N. C., April 27, 1988.

Williams, Mildred M., et al. The Jeanes Story: A Chapter in the History of American Education 1908-1968. Atlanta: Southern Education Foundation, 1979.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Photographs _____
Page 1

PHOTOGRAPHS:

The following information applies to all the nomination photographs:

Palmer Memorial Institute Historic District

Sedalia, North Carolina

Photographer: Laura A. W. Phillips

Date of photos: March 17, 1988

Location of original negatives: SHPO, Raleigh, N. C.

1. Palmer Memorial Institute
Campus view of Kimball and Stone halls, entrance gate, viewed from north
2. Palmer Memorial Institute
Kimball and Stone halls, viewed from northwest
3. Palmer Memorial Institute
Water tower and campus, viewed from northwest
4. Palmer Memorial Institute
Bell tower, viewed from northeast
5. Palmer Memorial Institute
Carrie M. Stone and Canary cottages, viewed from northwest
6. Palmer Memorial Institute
Charles W. Eliot Hall, viewed from northeast
7. Palmer Memorial Institute
Brightside and Gregg cottages, viewed from northeast
8. Bethany United Church of Christ
View from south
9. R. B. Andrew Farm
Store/post office and house, viewed from southeast
10. U.S. 70
Viewed from west end of district, looking east
11. Bethany United Church of Christ interior
Chalk ledge remaining in sanctuary as remnant of late 19th century
period when church was also used as a school

United States Department of the Interior
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 88002029 Date Listed: 10/24/88
Palmer Memorial Institute Historic District Guilford NC
Property Name County State

N/A

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Carol Shull
Signature of the Keeper

10-24-88
Date of Action

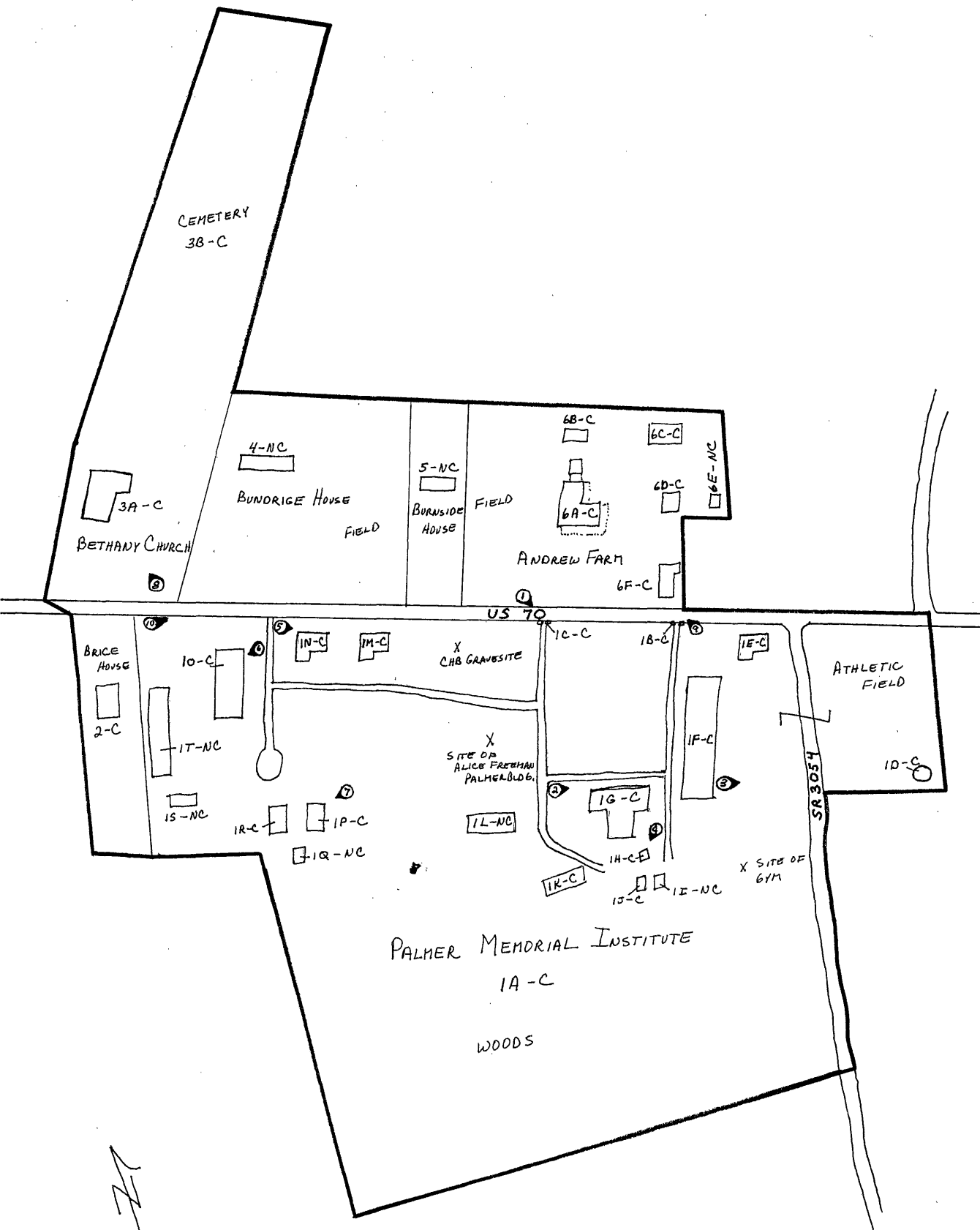
=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Criteria consideration A should be checked for this property.
Discussed and concurred in by North Carolina SHPO.

Discussed and concurred in by North Carolina SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)



PALMER MEMORIAL INSTITUTE HISTORIC DISTRICT
SCALE: 1" = 200'

1A-C — INVENTORY LIST # — CONTRIBUTING OR
NON-CONTRIBUTING

① — # + DIRECTION OF PHOTO